INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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REVIEWED BY J.M.Razi DATE May 6, 1982
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Action NEA
Info RMR W L INR UOP E DC IRC DCL ICA OCB CIA OSD AIR

FROM: Tripoli

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 937, May 22, 1 p.m.

SENT DEPARTMENT 937; REPEATED INFORMATION TUNIS 94, BENGHAZI 314

Reference: (A) ICATO 517; (B) TOICA 591

1. Re paragraph one reference A, while US representative agreeable accrue temporary deferral placement major new purchase orders at May 20 meeting, GOL pressure strong take actions now to assure installation Benghazi-Beida-Derna link by summer 59. Approximately $250,000 carrier equipment this purpose now placed on production schedules basis letters of intent, will require confirmation by purchase order within one month to maintain desired delivery dates.

2. GOL position based recent intergovernmental telecommunications meeting Rome at which Libya, Tunisia and Egypt agreed complete North African link international toll network from Europe to ME by 1960. Agreement of major importance GOL as promises provide estimated Libyan pounds 1 million annual revenue from international traffic.

3. Embassy/USOM reaffirm judgment telecommunications project politically and economically justified, and concerned repercussions if present program and additional FY 58 funding not permitted move ahead on schedule. Note that on basis recent GOL negotiations being reported separately, total $2 million project assistance now planned for obligation prior June 30.

4. IT and T representative from London recently Tripoli stated probably would discontinue representation in Libya by Smith and Wauters of Intercontinent Engineering, which major source irresponsible and unethical criticism Hycon-Page and handling telecommunications project both here and Washington.

5. Urge

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5. Urge action and advise soonest re visit ICA/W of Tudor*Engineering representative for review which we confident will confirm our judgment this matter. Memishian, Hycon-Page project leader now Tripoli and would remain assist review if ETA known next few days.

JONES

LFS/3

*As received. Verification upon request.

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